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INDEPENDENT IN ALL THINGS, NEUTRAL IN NONE.

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SCHOOLS IN NEED

Illinois Teachers Will Make a Fight in the Next Legislature for Twenty Million Dollar Fund

Present Appropriation by the State Is Entirely Too Small and the Cause of Education Suffers

Illinois school teachers will make a big fight in the next legislature for an annual school fund of \$20,000,000, according to R. C. Moore, secretary of the Illinois State Teachers' association.

With \$20,000,000 a year as their goal, the teachers plan to go before the legislature with the claim that the boost given the fund by the Fifty-second general assembly was insufficient for the needs of the state school system. The fund was increased from \$6,000,000 to \$8,000,000 this year.

Through their legislative lobbies the teachers obtained an increase of \$1,000,000 annually from the legislature in 1911. Sending lobbies to every session of the legislature, they gained increases which boosted the fund to \$3,000,000 in 1913, \$4,000,000 in 1915, and \$6,000,000 in 1919.

In their campaign for 1919 the association set \$10,000,000 a year as their goal. Coming back this year, they asked for \$20,000,000, and when the annual meeting is held here Dec. 28 to 30 the legislative program will include a renewed demand for the amount.

Other features of the legislative program which the association will take before the next legislature include: Development of continuation schools for children in employment and increase in school finances until a compulsory attendance law can be made effective for children up to 18 years of age.

Is the Book Trust at its work of throttling the schools of Chicago again? It would be too bad if School Superintendent Peter A. Mortenson's fight to save Chicago taxpayers and parents of school children \$700,000 a year through cheaper textbooks was all for naught.

TAKE 23 SUSPECTS IN TRAIN HOLDUP

Lone Bandit Robs Passengers on Observation Car in Chicago.

"DOES NOT ROB THE LADIES"

Railroad Officials Believe Robber Was Passenger on Train—Three Rail Men Among Victims—Outlaw Escapes in Auto.

Chicago, Dec. 22.—Twenty-three suspects were arrested by railroad detectives and 300 policemen who co-operated in a night of search for the lone holdup man who robbed passengers on the observation car of the de luxe Chicago-Washington-New York limited, a fast train on the Baltimore & Ohio railroad lines. The train was held up as it pulled out of the Sixty-third street station shortly before seven o'clock.

All of the men were taken to the detective bureau for questioning. Victims of the robbery will be asked to aid in the identification of the suspects.

Of the four persons robbed three were railroad officials. Other passengers would have been victims had not the conductor put in his appearance as the train was getting under way.

Rode From Chicago. Railroad officials relieve the masked holdup man was a passenger on the train when it pulled out of Chicago. The train stopped for a moment at

the Sixty-third street station to let on a few passengers, and as it again got under headway the door of the observation car was opened.

"Stick 'em up" was the command, and the passengers complied at once. The holdup man was polite to Mrs. Stansbury, who endeavored to save some diamond rings when the man started down the aisle of the car.

Doesn't Rob Ladies. "You don't need to do that," he said, as she twisted at the rings. "I don't rob ladies." He paid no attention, either, to the three Stansbury children, three, seven and ten years old, who had been playing about the car a moment before.

Secure in the belief that the man would not molest her, Mrs. Stansbury suddenly turned and ran from the observation car into the diner. She called that the train was being held up. The dining car was thrown into turmoil. Several women fainted and men tried vainly to borrow revolvers from each other, several shouting for the marines stationed in the mail cars at the front of the train.

Fearing the arrival of the conductor, who might be armed, as he confided to one of the men from whom he took jewelry and money, the train robber pulled the signal cord. The train slowed down and he leaped from the rear of the observation car, jumped over an embankment and as the train again gained headway several children playing near the scene saw him jump into an automobile in which at least one confederate waited.

Capt. J. D. Molter, head of the railroad's special police, thinks the men may have intended robbing a mail train, which is due from the east at that point at about 7:10 p. m.

Dennis J. Egan predicts victory for his party all along the line in 1922. He says the Democrats will make a clean sweep in Chicago and that the Congress elected next fall will be overwhelmingly Democratic.

Aldermen John Powers, Terrence Moran and Walter Steffen have been named by Ald. John Richert, chairman of the city council finance committee, to investigate the city traction fund.

The right of Gregory T. Van Meter to hold the office of public administrator, to which he was appointed by Gov. Small, was upheld by the state Supreme court Tuesday when it refused to grant Gordon Ramsay, the former administrator, a rehearing of his petition for reinstatement.

Pete Hoffman, our enterprising coroner, is quoted as announcing that hereafter all persons who make or sell booze to people who kill their fellowmen in consequence will be held by him for murder. Pete is right as usual. He is seldom left.

Corporation Counsel Ettelson gives legal opinions without fear or favor. The City Council does not like this and is talking about having a lawyer who will voice aldermanic opinions.

President Dan Ryan of the County Board, is making a hard fight to procure proper state aid for defectives as provided by law.

Captain Philip J. Sibley, the popular fountain pen man at 31 North Dearborn street, has opened another store at 81 East Adams street.

Some of the men now on the Superior bench will not be renominated without a battle, it developed at the Committee meeting.

George L. Haight, the well known lawyer, has been a lifelong fighter for better political conditions.

Large mail wagons have no place on boulevards. They are too big,

They hug the middle of the road. They cause many accidents. The postmaster general should issue an order compelling them to take other streets where they have the right of way. Most of the mail wagon drivers seem to be imbued with the idea that their principal duty in life is to injure some citizen and to show that individually

EAGLETS.

Robert M. Sweitzer is not a candidate for mayor. He is a candidate for re-election as county clerk, an office in which he has made a record for efficiency and good public service unequalled in the county. Sweitzer as a public man grows stronger every year. We voice not only our own sentiments but the belief of people generally that if he were mayor Chicago would never regret having for its chief magistrate a man who, although thoroughly human in everything, puts duty above all things and does it without fear or favor. That is why people grow to like him the more they see of him in public life.

We note with pleasure that our genial city clerk, Jim Igoe, has been endorsed by the public printers for Mayor, if the Council proceedings and poll lists could vote he would have no opposition.

John E. Traeger, former sheriff and coroner, is the strongest man named by the Democrats for sheriff in 1922. He has never been beaten and is one of the kind of men the people like to vote for and always do.

Thanks to prohibition moonshine, our esteemed office holder, Coroner Hoffman, reports a steady increase to his official duties caused by the readiness of some people to become subjects for inquests. Prohibition will drive them to anything.



EARLE H. REYNOLDS. Popular and Public Spirited President of the Peoples Trust and Savings Bank.

BRENTANO AGAIN

Men of All Parties Want to See the Just Judge Re-Elected to Superior Bench in 1922

His Retirement in the Last June Election Was a Fluke Due to Conditions Not Foreseen

Judge Theodore Brentano will probably be re-elected to the Superior Court Bench in 1922 without opposition.

For thirty-one years he made a record in the judicial office for fairness, honesty and judicial ability which is acknowledged by all.

For three different terms he was

of all shades of political opinion were present to do honor to the respected jurist. Speeches were made by Captain Edward Maher, John J. Coburn, Judge David T. Matchett, Senator James J. Barbour, Francis W. Walker, Judge Marcus Kavanagh, Clarence S. Darrow and Mrs. Severin.

Judge Brentano's work and character were extolled by all and the event was remarkable for the outburst of good feeling for a man whose greatest capital is his noble record on the bench.

Three officials of the city street department collected \$3,500 this year for the upkeep of their privately owned automobiles which they used in the service of the municipality.

Most of the city employes using automobiles are allowed \$3.75 a day for expenses. Ald. Edward H. Armitage of the 27th ward protested. He said the allowance was excessive. The appointment of the subcommittee to investigate was the result.

The Republican factions have not yet called in Coroner Hoffman, although they both claim his vote. An inquest might help things.

James M. Dailey and Alderman John Toman are the latest announcements in the fight for the Democratic nomination for Sheriff.

IRISH PEOPLE TO DECIDE ON PACT

Referendum on Ratification Indicated by Debate in Dail.

LLOYD GEORGE IS ASSAILED

Mary McSwiney, in an Impassioned Attack on the Treaty, Calls the Premier an Unscrupulous Scoundrel—Fighting Man Talks.

Dublin, Dec. 22.—Indications multiply that Dail Eireann will refer the treaty of Lloyd George to a vote of the Irish people who elected the members of the Dail to office. Proponents of the treaty have no fear of its rejection by the people.

W. P. Cosgrove, a Sinn Fein envoy, while speaking in support of the treaty, asked his opponents if they were willing to abide by the vote of the people.

Cries of "yes, yes," came from the benches where the adherents of De Valera sat.

"Such an agreement is possible," said Cosgrove, "but, mind you, the voice of the people shall be final."

Mary McSwiney, sister of the martyred lord mayor of Cork, made an impassioned attack on the treaty, assailing Lloyd George as "an unscrupulous scoundrel."

She remarked that this probably would be her last chance to address such an assembly, which was construed to mean that she believes the treaty will be ratified.

Fighting Man Talks.

E. J. Duggan, one of the principal aides of Michael Collins in charge of the Irish republican army, was prominent in the debate for a few mo-

ments. Addressing De Valera, Duggan said:

"This treaty gives almost everything Irish patriots have died for. No combination of deputies can send the Irish nation to its death by rejecting this treaty.

"We did not evade our responsibility the night we accepted the treaty. You now must stand responsible to the people."

Earlier in the session G. Gavan Duffy, another signer of the pact, told the proceedings on the eventful night. He said:

"Premier Lloyd George served an ultimatum upon us on December 4, and he was not play acting. We had three hours to decide, not enough time to consult either Dail Eireann or the cabinet.

"It was a question of either peace or war. The situation was the most critical of the long course of the peace negotiations.

"We were sent as peace delegates, but were suddenly transformed into representatives with the deciding power of peace or war.

Gave Republic for People. "If it was to be war, then fresh hordes of savages would be loosed upon Ireland. We lost the republic of Ireland to save the people of Ireland. It was with a heavy heart that I signed the pact.

"The pact gives Ireland power to control her own government as well as to resist military aggression. Our government has the power to relegate the king of England 'to utter darknesses' if it desires."

Chicago Democrats believe that they can win easily in 1922 with a divided Republican opposition.

Send a check to the Service League for the Handicapped to Edmund D. Hulbert, its treasurer. Its headquarters are at 15 East Washington street and it helps cripples who cannot help themselves and who get no governmental aid. Its good work is praised by all who know of it. Dr. Frank Billings is president; Richmond Dean, vice president; Mrs. William L. Hodgkins, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Charles C. Buell, recording secretary; other vice presidents, Mrs. Mary F. Van Voorhis, Mrs. Robert H. Harvey, and Miss Jane A. Nell.

Democratic-Republican coalition off for keeps.

Tuesday was past presidents' day at the Electric Club of Chicago, which met Tuesday noon at the Hotel Morrison. W. G. Luscombe, division commercial superintendent of the Illinois Bell Telephone company, was installed as president. Fifteen past presidents of the club were at the meeting.

County Treasurer Carr will be renominated by the Democrats without opposition.

Robert M. Sweitzer will be unanimously renominated for County Clerk next year by the Democrats.

The Democrats will hold their primaries next April on the old 35th ward basis.

Daily newspapers fought hard for coalition between their faction and the Democrats in the 1922 election and failed to bring it about.

Colonel August W. Miller, popular clerk of the Circuit Court, is often mentioned for higher political honors.

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